

April 1, 2011

Volume 1, Issue 1

# MAINTENANCE MINUTES

1<sup>ST</sup> Maintenance Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment-15

## Special Interest Articles:

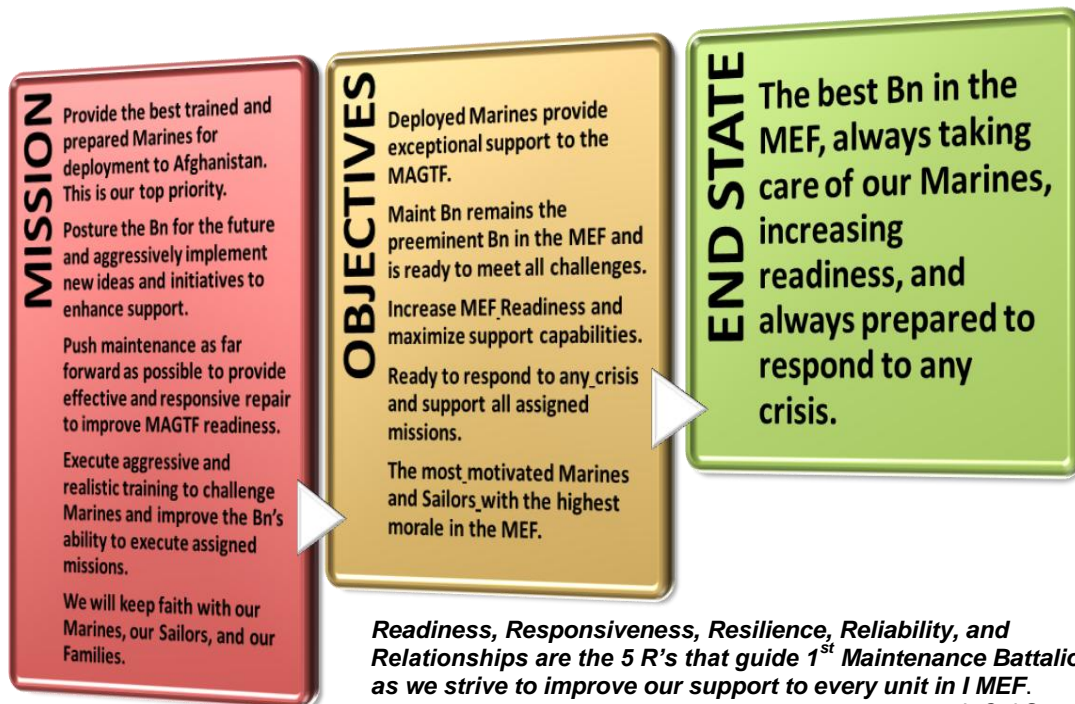
- **Move Over SASSY!**  
*Here comes GCSS-MC!* 2
- **I MEF Readiness**  
*See how your commodity stacks up!* 2
- **The Cal Lab Delivers?** 4

## Individual Highlights:

OMC	3
Optics Disposal	3
RMC	4
DLA	4
EFSS	5
FSRs and Supporting Agencies	6
CLC <sup>2</sup> S	7



## Commanding Officer's Campaign Plan



## New Initiatives

By Major Walter A. Harris  
Production Officer

During this period, the focus of effort for First Maintenance Battalion has remained providing intermediate maintenance support to I Marine Expeditionary Force (I MEF). The Battalion also continued to provide Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) support while simultaneously providing personnel for Transition Team and Individual Augment type billets. With numerous task

organized forces deploying and re-deploying, the Battalion has diligently worked to maintain proportional maintenance support for I Marine Expeditionary Force units. Simultaneously, the Command is heavily involved in the sourcing of significant amounts of equipment and personnel for the upcoming deployment of 11.1, the MEU's, Mojave Viper, WTI, 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Expeditionary Brigade, and Pacific Horizon.

Pacific Horizon is a Maritime Prepositioning Force operation that took place on Camp Pendleton at Red Beach. Maintenance Battalion provided IMA support to the offload and utilized the exercise as an opportunity to pursue additional training. Additionally, Pacific Horizon gave us the opportunity to deploy our expeditionary dynamometers. The deployment of the dynamometers gave us the ability to test secondary reparables in a field environment. □



## MAINTENANCE MINUTES

### All Aboard the Global Combat Support System-Marine Corps (GCSS-MC) Train!

By John L. Sweeney  
Col USMC (Ret)



*"All maintenance and supply capability will be brought into one system."*

The GCSS-MC train is about to arrive at the station and very quickly depart. If you are not aboard, get off the tracks and out of the way. I MEF starts supporting FSMAO-W(REIN) with personnel in May, training for key personnel is in June, and CLR-15, CLR-17, and MHG HQ begin cutover right after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. The train continues to pick up momentum and keeps on rolling until December 2012. It will be coming to a unit near you.

For those of you not familiar with GCSS-MC, it will basically replace MIMMS, PC-MIMMS, SASSY and ATLASS. All maintenance and supply capability will be brought into one system. That will reduce reconciliation efforts. It will provide near real time readiness information and supply status. It will also assist PM scheduling. The days of batching are over, as

soon as a mechanic enters a service request it is seen throughout the system.

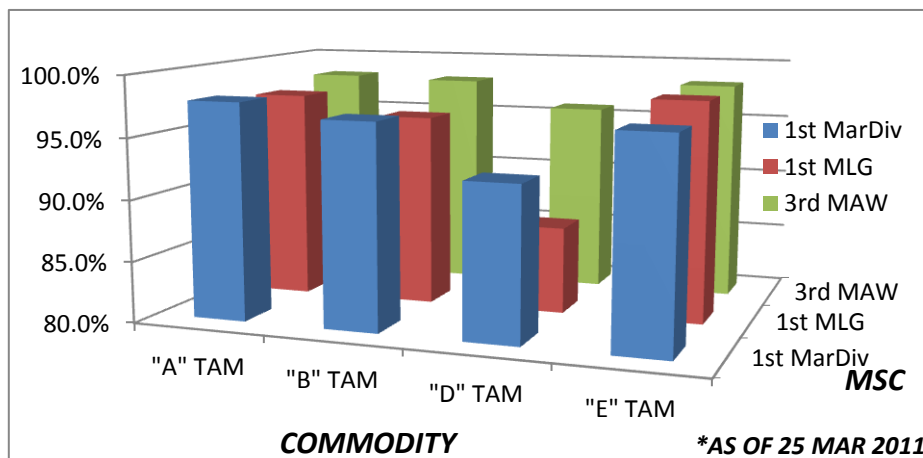
Supply shaping actions have begun with several directing messages and the recent SASSY Conversion Assessment Tool (SCAT) is identifying and assisting the Supply side of the equation. Unfortunately, for the maintenance side there is no data transfer from MIMMS into GCSS-MC. A MEF message outlining shaping actions is under development – it will basically require units to begin using proper warehousing techniques for their PEBs and Layettes.

Change is uncomfortable and a difficult process, especially for us old Corps Marines. Change is coming and we need to lead it. I am sure we all have heard the horror stories from III MEF. What was fielded last year to them is not what is coming to I MEF. The Marines in III MEF have

made plenty of recommendations and some, if not most, have been incorporated. Process and the way we do business is about to change. The old way needs to be jettisoned and leverage the new technology. SASSY/MIMMS were the advanced guard from the late 1960's, I think the Marine Corps can join the 21<sup>st</sup> century – there has been progress and we owe it to the future to embrace it now.

When Ford rolled out the Model T you could have any color you wanted as long as it was black. Today we have a Ferrari or a Porsche. Same will be with GCSS-MC, this first version will be basic black and may have a wart or two but with time and your input, it can and will become a premier capability ready to improve operational readiness to the I MEF, in order for the MEF to fight on tomorrow's battlefield. So row well, and live. □

### MEF Readiness, by Commodity/MSC





### Ordnance Maintenance Company

By CWO3 Bert Schultz Jr.  
OMC MMO

The company remains a vital asset within the MEF. Our capabilities include the testing and repairs of calibrated tools, weapons, artillery, communications and optical equipment.

Since January 2011, OMC has conducted maintenance on over 7,000 pieces of equipment while disposing of nearly 2,000 unserviceable or obsolete items.

Our maintenance support efforts are endless and have no boundaries. Our unique ability to push contact teams forward

gives the MEF an added capability. Support provided to 29 Palms, Miramar, Arizona, and many other distant locations is not uncommon.

We recently pushed contact teams to Hawthorn, Nevada in support of the Expeditionary Systems Evaluation Division. The Marines conducted PMCS on weapon systems while simultaneously participating in the evaluation of the M2 50 cal. machine gun quick change barrel.

OMC is available to not

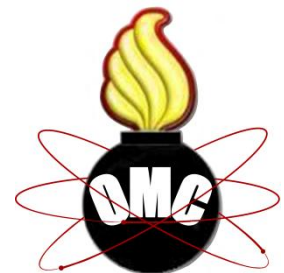
only repair unserviceable equipment, but also provides assistance for overflow maintenance and preventive maintenance checks and services.

Continue to be proactive about reporting equipment readiness so that we can take swift action to ensure maximum equipment availability is maintained.

Along with supporting I MEF, the Marine rifleman mission never stops. It is one of our top priorities to ensure our Marines are ready at a moment's notice. This is critical as we prepare to go forward when the MEF calls. □

---

*"Our maintenance support efforts are endless and have no boundaries."*



### Optical Equipment Disposal

By CWO4 Jeffery D Grasz  
Electro-Optics Repair OIC

Several disposal plans have been published concerning the disposal of obsolete optical devices. Many of these obsolete devices can be used by other agencies. Often, units are turning in this gear that shows excessive damage. This level of damage prevents the sale of these items as well as potentially exposing others to hazardous material. In these cases serviceable parts are

salvaged and damaged parts are further demilitarized and disposed of. If better care



of these assets were taken it would allow the Marine Corps to recoup some of the procurement cost that can then be applied to the replacement

assets.

Most of these items contain some hazardous material; some of the material is radioactive. OMC makes every effort to ensure proper disposal of these items.

Continued turn-in of obsolete equipment is necessary to meet the requirements set by HQMC. Approximately 7,000 outdated pieces of optics remain within the MEF today. □

---

*"Approximately 7,000 outdated pieces of optics remain within the MEF today."*



## MAINTENANCE MINUTES

### Reparable Management Company / RIP

By CWO4 Raymond A. Brown  
RMC MMO

In an ongoing effort to prepare for GCSS-MC implementation, the Reparable Issue Point has begun several initiatives to support the transition. One of the first "new" planned changes in customer support will be availability of stock checks. The RIPs Consolidated Asset Listing will be posted daily to the Reparable Management Company SharePoint site under RIP for viewing. Another focus for GCSS-MC will be a units listing of personnel authorized to

transact with the RIP, to this end the RIP has concentrated efforts into having each unit provide a current and signed authorization letter to deliver and receipt for equipment from the Main Issue Point at Del Mar.

Persistent efforts are being made to consolidate configuration standards for Secondary Reparables (SECREPs) with Marine Corps Logistics Command (MARCORLOGCOM), Marine Corps Systems Command (MARCORSYSCOM), and other proprietors of

different platforms supported by the RIP. Units are advised to make sure that SECREPs turned into the RIP or its subfloats are configured properly and that a complete check of the configuration is done before acceptance of any SECREPs.

The Reparable Issue Point is in the second month of a SECREP delivery concept. Currently, the RIP is contacting customers who have backorders available for pick-up and giving the option of delivery to the proverbial front door. □

---

*"The RIPs Consolidated Asset Listing will be posted daily to the Reparable Management Company SharePoint site under RIP for viewing."*

## Defense Logistics Agency (DLA)

### Isn't just for the 30XX.

By Timothy Shaw  
I MEF DLA Rep.

DLA's top priority is always warfighter support. This means logistics support of the readiness and sustainment of America's warfighters themselves and of industrial activities and others whose own efforts are critical to preserving and enhancing our nation's and our allies' defense postures. It requires constant attention to ensure DLA's goals, processes and performance are synchronized with the needs of our warfighting customers, mission

partners and other stakeholders. DLA continues to provide training on all of our products and services. Many of our courses offer classroom instruction as well as Distributed Learning delivery such as Computer Based Training (CBT) on CD ROM/DVD, Web Based Training (WBT), Satellite/VTC Training, and Webinar. Tailored courses can be developed to meet individual service or agency needs. Training is available to the Department of Defense, Civil agencies, participating allied

governments and Government contractors. Class locations can be at the DLA Logistics Information Service, your work site, or a central/regional location.

The intermediate level training provided can have a significant impact on the Maintenance Chief's ability to run an effective shop section and to maintain unit readiness. With proficient knowledge of webFLIS, webVLIPS, DoD Email, and Asset Visibility, the maintainer can cut maintenance cycle times in half. □



*"It requires constant attention to ensure DLA's goals, processes and performance are synchronized with the needs of our war fighting customers"*





### Trends that we are watching ...

*"As a team we must remain vigilant of these types of issues and continue to support one another."*

1<sup>st</sup> Maintenance Battalion continues to provide uninterrupted IMA support to the MEF. We have made great strides in maintenance performance and look forward to enhancing our abilities as we progress into the future.

In order to efficiently support the MEF, we must

conduct maintenance actions in the most expeditious manner. This allows us to return the equipment back to the war fighter as quick as possible.

One challenge we continue to face is the sense of urgency the supported units have when notified to receipt for

repaired equipment.

This delay creates a backlog which at times has burdened our abilities to efficiently perform our mission.

As a team we must remain vigilant of these types of issues and continue to support one another. □

### The Cal Lab Delivers!

**By MSgt Paul J. Smithson**  
Calibrations SNCOIC

The Calibration Lab has started delivering gear to select customers on a weekly basis. Every Tuesday we will start delivering gear to customers with excessive

gear waiting to be picked up or gear that has been in the Cal lab for an extended period of time. The customers that we deliver to each week will be different depending on the criteria stated before. So please do not expect us to deliver your gear. We are still depending on

the majority of the customers to pick up gear. With us delivering gear and your best efforts to pick up gear, it will shorten the time your equipment will be out of usage. □



### The Expeditionary Fire Support System (EFSS) is here!

**By Ray Blauser**  
EFSS/ITV FSR

The EFSS mission is to serve as the direct support weapon system for the vertical assault element of the Ship to Objective Maneuver force. A critical element of the Marine Corps ground fires triad, (EFSS, M777, and HIMARS) EFSS will provide increased speed, tactical agility, and vertical

transportability to ranges that mirror that of a vertical force, with minimal tradeoffs in lethality. EFSS will be manned and supported by the Marine artillery regiment within the Marine division as part of the Marine Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF).

The Program Office, with the help of the New Equipment Training Team, lead by Mr. R.C. Garner, Maj Philip Stauffacher,

and myself, successfully fielded Kilo Btry 3/12 in Feb and on 11-15 April 2011, Bravo Btry 1/11 will receive, inventory, conduct functions checks, and conduct break in on all EFSS equipment.

28 Marines from OMC, MTM, CLB-11 and CLB-7 took part in Maintainer Training last month and more will attend in May. □



*The EFSS completes the "Triad of Fires." A fire support concept introduced by former Commandant, Gen James L Jones.*

### FSR Support Staff

**Raytheon (M41A4 SABER)**  
Jeremy Johnson (910) 545-0629  
[jeremy.r.johnson@raytheon.com](mailto:jeremy.r.johnson@raytheon.com)

**Tec-Masters Inc. (EFSS/ITV)**  
Ray Blauser (775) 345-4008  
[rblauser@tecmasters.com](mailto:rblauser@tecmasters.com)

**Force Protection (MRAP)**  
Joe Mangels (843) 906-9495  
[joseph.mangels@forceprotection.net](mailto:joseph.mangels@forceprotection.net)

**Harris Corp**  
Scott Russell (775) 725-4258  
[rsusse09@harris.com](mailto:rsusse09@harris.com)

**CLC<sup>2</sup>S**  
Chris Ramirez (858) 776-2065  
[christopher@ir-tech.com](mailto:christopher@ir-tech.com)

---

**LogCom**  
Donn Van Deren (760) 763-5277  
[donn.vanderen@usmc.mil](mailto:donn.vanderen@usmc.mil)

**MarCorSysCom Rep ("D" TAMs)**  
Lynwood Mitchell (949) 510-2540  
[lynwood.mitchell.ctr@usmc.mil](mailto:lynwood.mitchell.ctr@usmc.mil)

**Log Mod Team West**  
John L Sweeney (760) 725-9244  
[john.l.sweeney@usmc.mil](mailto:john.l.sweeney@usmc.mil)

**DLA Representative**  
Timothy Shaw  
[timothy.shaw@dla.mil](mailto:timothy.shaw@dla.mil)

## Field Service Representatives (FSR) Spotlight:

### HARRIS

**By Scott Russell**  
Harris Corp. FSR

For those of you who are reluctant to learn a new piece of gear, you better grab a radio and start learning it, System Command's plan is for it to be around for long enough for a lot of you to retire.

The PRC-152 is the first software driven radio that the majority of you have seen. This being the case, you might not know that it allows for a lot of flexibility. In the simplest terms, think of the radio as you do your own PC or Smartphone. As a new program that you want comes out, you download it. The same is true for the radio. As new waveforms are developed that the Marine Corps wants for their radios all we have to do is download the firmware and we have other capabilities. This is actually happening right now. Modification Instruction 10496A has

many of your unit's 2844/46's in the process of installing firmware version 7.0.8 into the radios. Also in case you haven't looked at the MI, it has a mandatory completion date of April 28<sup>th</sup>, so if you're not done yet, you might want to get HOT.

With the PRC-152 being a software defined radio we must pay close attention to the HUB, or Hold Up Battery. Unlike the older hardware defined systems where if your HUB dies you can reload your crypto and SINCGARS fill and continue to march, if the PRC-152's HUB dies the radio is "bricked" and it must go in to maintenance to be re-initialized. This is why System Command released SI-11496A setting up PM schedule for the radio.

Speaking of PM, How about doing some!!! While some units do a decent job at this, the vast majority of the radios we receive at the induction

counter at RMC are seriously lacking in this department. A lot of system problems we see are simply dirty connectors. Just like the inside of the barrel on your M-4, shinny is good. We also need to keep the radio battery charged to keep it from draining to the point where it won't take a charge any longer.

Some of you may be asking where I can get training. I'd start with the manuals. Every radio came with a CD of the Operations manuals. They are also available on the USMC technical pubs website and on the Harris Premier website. For more formal classes there is the MEF CTC (Communications Training Center) in Del Mar. They have a number of classes for both the 06xx as well as the non-06. You can also contact your Harris, I MEF FSR. If you do have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your time. Have a great day. □

*For vehicular situations, the AN/PRC-152 is included in the AN/VRC-110, a fully integrated, high-performance system featuring a vehicular amplifier adaptor and standard SINCGARS mount for reliable, long-range communications and quick-dismount capabilities.*



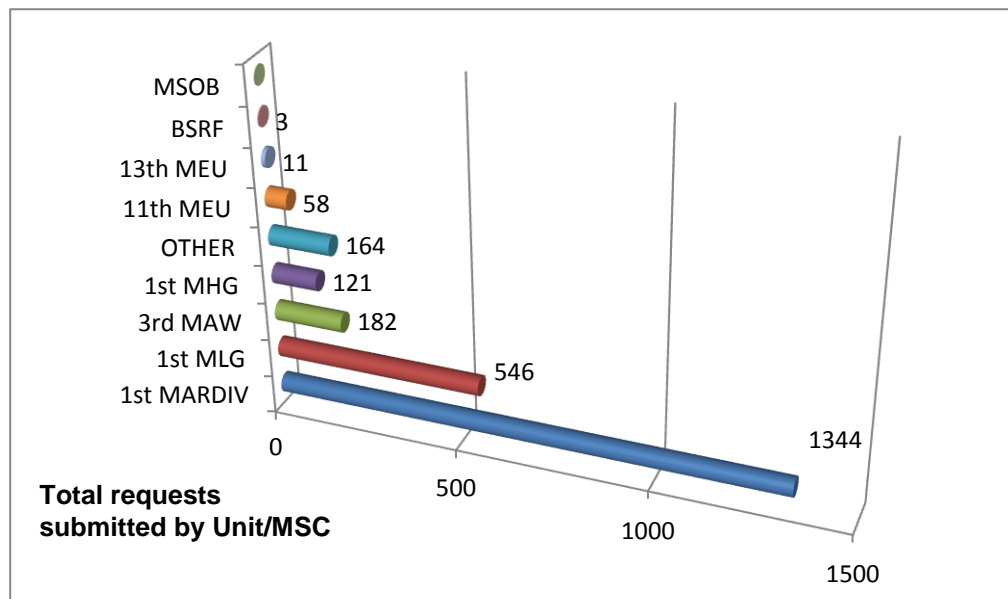
## Common Logistics Command and Control (CLC<sup>2</sup>S)

By **Danny Harkness**  
CLC2S FSR

Our goal is to use CLC2S to help streamline the maintenance support request process within I MEF, currently we are

utilizing CLC2S for maintenance contact teams, and LTI contact teams for E TAM's to the IIP. We are in the process of implementing CLC2S for requesting LTI contact teams for D TAM's to the

IIP as well. To reserve seats, or for information about upcoming CLC2S training please contact Doug Arent at 951-473-3503 or email at [darent@tapestry.solutions.com](mailto:darent@tapestry.solutions.com). □



## Maintenance Operations Section (MOS)

By **MGySgt Robert A Busto**  
MOS SNCOIC

The MOS is dedicated to ensuring that the mission of the Battalion is fulfilled. We ensure the Battalion provides general support, intermediate maintenance support for Marine Corps tactical ordnance, engineer, motor transport, communications-electronics, and general support equipment to the

Marine Expeditionary Force. The MOS consists of the Commodity Readiness Managers and the Intermediate Supply Support Section (ISSS). The Commodity Readiness Managers (A, B, D, and E TAMs) act as liaisons for the Battalion to external agencies and commercial service providers. The ISSS is designed to minimize challenges often

encountered under standard supply chain processes.

Look for updates in next quarter's **MAINTENANCE MINUTES!** □

## Maintenance Operations Section

**Production Officer**  
Major Walter A Harris  
[walter.a.harris@usmc.mil](mailto:walter.a.harris@usmc.mil)

**MOS Assistant OIC**  
CWO5 Charles D McCarrell  
[charles.mccarrell@usmc.mil](mailto:charles.mccarrell@usmc.mil)

**MOS SNCOIC**  
MGySgt Robert A Busto  
[robert.busto@usmc.mil](mailto:robert.busto@usmc.mil)

### Commodity Managers

**"A" TAM**  
GySgt Lyle G Scott  
[lyle.scott@usmc.mil](mailto:lyle.scott@usmc.mil)

**"B" TAM**  
GySgt Michael T Thrash  
[michael.thrash@usmc.mil](mailto:michael.thrash@usmc.mil)

**"D" TAM**  
GySgt Dave D Gibson  
[dave.d.gibson1@usmc.mil](mailto:dave.d.gibson1@usmc.mil)

**"E" TAM**  
SSgt Jeremy D Capalite  
[jeremy.capalite@usmc.mil](mailto:jeremy.capalite@usmc.mil)

1<sup>st</sup> Maint BN, MOS  
Bldg. 430602  
Camp Pendleton, CA 92055

PHONE:  
(760) 763-5276  
(760) 763-5277

FAX:  
(760) 763-5279

We're on the Web!

See us at:

<https://1mlgsharepoint.nmci.usmc.mil/mse/cir15/1stMaintBn/MaintenanceOperationsSection/default.aspx>